their demand was for full implementation of Jute packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 in all the Sectors.

(c) Compliance with Jute Packaging order in respect of Foodgrain & Sugar Sectors in full. The observance has been more or less satisfactory in Fertiliser Sector. However, Cement Sector has been flouting the orders. Jute commissioner has issued 25 show cause notices to Cement Units & 10 show cause notices to Fertiliser Units. Monthly report from all Cement and Fertiliser Units were sought for proper monitoring. Subsequent to issue of show cause notices Cement Units moved various High Courts in the country challenging the order and obtained stay orders in some cases.

[Translation]

Violation of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act

2828. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

SHRI PAWAN DIWAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cases of violation of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act by the individuals, corportate bodies and other organisations during the last three years; and

(b) the position of the enquiry in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Data are not maintained according to the category of the accused persons. However, the number of cases registered by the Enforcement Directorate for suspected violations of the provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) during the last three years are as under:

Years	Number of cases registered
1994	6061
1995	5633
1996	5486

(b) Some of these cases have been closed for lack of evidence. Others are at different stages of investigation/ adjudication/appeals.

[English]

Export/Import Earnings

2829. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the gap between the export earnings and import expenditure during the period from March to June, 1997;

(b) the reasons for import expenditure far exceeding as compared to export earnings; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to bridge the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) As per DGCI&S data, the gap between export earnings and import expenditure during the period March to June, 1997, was a deficit of US $ 1456.61 million.

(b) While imports are related to the needs of the economy, exports depend, inter-alia, on various factors such as international market conditions, tariff and non-tariff barriers, domestic infrastructure, cost of export credit, policy framework, etc.

(c) The gap between export earnings and import expenditure is sought to be reduced through export promotion. Export promotion measures are continuously being taken by the Government through policy and promotional schemes. These include, inter-alia, simplification of Export Import Policy procedures, reduction in interest rates on export credit, undertaking country specific initiatives, focussing on quality and technology upgradation, involving State Governments in export promotion, holding interactive discussions with Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards and Trade and Industry with a view to evolve measures to boost exports. An Export Promotion Board has also been set up to resolve the issues and problems facing the exporters.

Export of Cotton Grey Fabrics

2830. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) The unbleached cotton grey fabrics exported during each of the last three years;

(b) whether our exports are likely to increase due to dropping of a 'definitive' anti-dumping duty by European Union; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L.JALAPPA): (a) The export of unbleached cotton grey fabrics during the last three years have been as under:

(In Rs. Crores)

Year	Exports
1994	1020.07
1995	1187.43
1996	1093.80

(b) and (c) The European Commission has re-initiated anti-dumping proceedings on import of unbleached cotton fabrics inter-alia from India. Even otherwise, there is only a limited scope for increasing exports of cotton grey fabrics to the European Union as there is a quantitative ceiling upto which this product can be exported from India into EU countries under the Indo-EU bilateral agreement.